



## **"SOUTH CENTRAL OFFERS A HELPING HAND"**

On Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008 members of the South Central community of Ward 5 displayed the highest form of civic engagement and leadership by offering their time to participate in a neighborhood clean-up as part of Mayor Adrian Fenty's "Operation Fix-It" initiative that aims to remove signs of blight and crime throughout the District.

Led by Frances Penn, President of the South Central Civic Association and Martha Ward, Ward 5 Community Activist, the group of approximately 15 neighbors successfully removed the trash, overgrowth, and debris that overwhelmed a cul-de-sac on the 2800 Block of Franklin Street, NE.

The Department of Public Work's (DPW) Helping Hands Program supervised by Mr. Thomas Day offered support to the community members, providing the needed tools and cleaning materials to get the job done. Once the clean-up was complete, DPW scheduled the pick up of all the filled trash bags.

The South Central group pledged to continue the maintenance of the area which has been an ongoing nuisance to the surrounding community. Moving forward, they will join

together every six weeks to trim tree boxes, cut brush, and remove trash from the area; their goal is to plant a community garden for neighbors to enjoy for the upcoming spring season.

**Photos from the Clean-up:**

